MONDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1853.

IN SENATE.

Mr. CLAY presented the credentials of the Hon. BEN JAMIN FITZPATRICK, elected a Senator from the State of Alabama by the Legislature of that State, to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of the Hon. WM. R. King, which during a portion of the last session he filled by Executive appointment.

The oath prescribed by law having been administered

FITZPATRICK, he took his seat in the Senate.

DEATH OF THE HON. C. G. ATHERTON. Mr. NORRIS, of New Hampshire, having obtained the unanimous consent of the Senate to introduce resolutions in relation to the death of the Hon. CHARLES G. ATHERros, proceeded to submit a few remarks in connexion

During the four years I have been honored with a seat in this chamber, (said he,) often has the attention of the Senate been arrested from its ordinary business to the contemplation of the solemn scenes of death. Of those who have been associated with us here during that brief period, no less than nine have passed to their final account. The most distinguished minds of the land-I might well say of the world-have been removed from us by the hand of death. Their wisdom to counsel, their loquence to inspire, live only in the history of the past. It seems to me that if there was ever a body of men taught by the admonitions of an all-wise Providence the utter emptiness of the highest earthly places of honor and trust, that body is the Senate of the United States. While the pathway of death has been thronged by our fellow-countrymen who have conferred upon us the high places we occupy, that dark pathway has also been trod by an unprecedented number of our associates, all hastening to and mingling together in the same common resting-place—the grave.

The last on the catalogue of the fated number of our associates was my esteemed and lamented friend and col-league, Charles Gordon Atherton, who, at the time of his recent death, was a member of this body from the State of New Hampshire. He died suddenly at Manchester, in that State, on the 15th of November last, of paralysis. On the morning of the 10th he came into the court-room in that city, where he had been actively and laboriously engaged some two or three weeks in the discharge of prosional duties, apparently as full of health and spirits as any of us now enjoy, and with the brightest prospects of a useful and distinguished future. Soon after coming into the court, while conversing with a member of the bar, his countenance suddenly changed, and his tongue refused its utterance. His left side was paralyzed. He was immediately removed to his lodgings, and the ablest medical aid procured. During the remaidder of that day (Thursday) and the next he seemed fully conscious of his condition, and communicated with his friends; but on Saturday he sunk into a state of unconsciousness, from which he never awoke, but continued to sink gradually under the force of the attack until Tuesday, the 15th, at one o'clock P. M., when he breathed his last. Thus abruptly has been stricken down in an unexpected moment our late esteemed associate, in the meridian of physical and intellectual manhood.

He left us at the close of the last special session with as well-founded expectations of being here to-day as any member of this body; but, alas! that seat has been va-How suddenly does Providence, by his inscrutable decrees, blast our fondest anticipations, and teach us the true tenure of man's estate—the true yet frail tenure of all earthly honor and station and of life itself! In-deed, what are all these but an empty inheritance, ex-cept so far as they are made subservient to individual and the public prosperity—to the happiness and permanent good of the race ?

Atherton left no children. His parents, indeed the whole of his father's family, had gone before him to the tomb. Nevertheless, he died amid a large circle of ardent and cherished friends, who sincerely mourn his death. He was descended from ancestors distinguished in the history of his State. His grandfather, Joshua Atherton, was a lawyer of much eminence, and settled early at Amherst, a shire town in Hillsborough county; was a member of the Convention which ratified the Constitution of the United States, and subsequently a Sena-tor and Attorney General of New Hampshire. His father, Charles H. Atherton, was also a thoroughly-read and accomplished lawyer, a man of brilliant genius, and a fine orator. He was frequently a member of the State Legislature, and a member of the House of Representatives in the 14th Congress.

The subject of my present remarks was born at Am-herst, Hillsborough county, New Hampshire, the resi-dence of his father and grandfather, on the 4th day of July, 1804. He exhibited, at a very early age, a strong taste for classic literature, and a capacity to master, with a remarkable quickness and ease, the fundamental elements of a classic and liberal education. He entered Cambridge University in 1818, being then only fourteen years of age, and was graduated in 1822, beloved and esteemed both by the faculty and his fellow-students. His college life was exemplary, and his standing as a scholar was among the first of his class.

father, and was admitted to the bar at the age of twenty-Nashua, in his native county, where he resided until his recent death.

Mr. Atherton has been much in public life, a circum stance showing better perhaps than any other test the high estimation in which he was held for fidelity and capacity by the people of his State. In 1830 he was chosen a member of the Legislature, and in 1831 he was elected Secretary of the Senate. He was again chosen a member of the Legislature in 1833, and continued a member until 1836, and was the Speaker of the House of Representatives for three successive years. He was a member of the House of Representatives of the United States for the Twenty-fifth, Twenty-sixth, and Twenty-seventh Congresses. In 1842 he was chosen by the Legislature of New Hampshire a member of this body for the term of six years. After having served out his term, he retired from public life and resumed the practice of his profes-In 1850 he was elected to the Convention called to revise the Constitution of New Hampshire. In 1852 he was again elected to represent his State in the Senate of the United States for six years, and took his seat here on the 4th of March last.

From the tasks of the school-room to the high duties of a Senator he well and ably acted his part. As a scholar, he was thorough, enthusiastic, and accomplished. As a lawyer, a master in the profession, quick of perception, yet always safe and judicious in counsel. As an advocate, forcible and logical, oftentimes soaring into the highest regions of forensic eloquence. As a statesman, he was fearless and just, enlightened and able. While tenacious of the interest of his own immediate constituents, he was always liberal and just towards the interests of every other section of the country, taking the consti tution as the great chart to guide and limit his action. As a patriot, his views were as broad as the Confederacy. adhering with inflexible firmness to those conservative and constitutional principles which secure to every section of our common country the rights peculiar to each. He acknowledged no political law high r or more sacred for his rule of conduct here than that sacred instrument which we are all sworn to support. As a friend, he was ever faithful and true.

The death of such a man is not merely a sad bereavem nt to the State whose immediate representative he was, but a calamity coextensive with the Union, reaching as deep as the foundation of those great principles of republican liberty on which our prosperity and happiness as a united people depend.

This lamentable event again teaches us the all-important and solemn lesson to be "also ready," for we know not the moment when we too shall be called to our final

Sir. while we, in common with his numerous friends, lament his death, let us not forget that there is one of his own immediate family circle left behind with whom we can only sympathize. I mean the loved and chosen partner of his youth-the amiable and accomplished companion of his maturer manhood-who, with stricken heart and a soothing care that none but woman can bestow, watched with anxious solicitude the fitful pulsations of sinking nature, and bathed his aching head with her While we extend to her our deepest sympathies, it is God alone can heal the crushed heart.

I offer the following resolutions: Resolved. That the Senate deeply laments the death of the Hon. CHARLES GORDON ATHERTON, who at the time of his de-cease was a member of this body from the State of New Hampshire, and tenders to his widow a sincere sympashy in this

most afflicting bereavement.

Resolved. That the Secretary communicate a copy of the foregoing resolution to the widow of the deceased; and, further, that he communicate these proceedings to the House of Rep-

Mr. HUNTER, of Virginia. I rise to second the resolution which the Senator from New Hampshire has offered, and to which he has spoken so feelingly and eloquent-This is the second time within the brief period of our session that the Senate has been called upon to pay funeral honors to the dead. Awhile ago it was to one who, ripe with years and honors, descended to the tomb when life had fulfilled its promises, and seemed to have reached its natural and appropriate close. Now, sir, we are to pay them to one stricken down in the prime of life, with his hopes and aspirations fresh and growing around him. He had already won a high position before the country, and had possessed himself of great opportunities for future usefulness, which, in hands able to use them, are perhaps to be reckoned among the chief of and diplomatic expenses of Government for the year

Also, a bill to supply deficiencies in appropriations for honored by his State, a thousand favoring circumstances invited his reappearance upon the political arena, and a bright and promising future seemed to be opening before him. And yet, in an instant of time, with the untasted cup beside him, without forewarning or foreshadow of the cup beside him, without forewarning or foreshadow of the fatal event which was coming so swiftly upon him, he was stricken down in mid-career. The mind was smitten in its fastness, and the stream of life stood still at its spring. The living spirit which sometimes "o'er-infuses its tenement of clay" had loosed the connecting link between mind and body, and the oracle was hushed whilst the earth-built walls of its sanctuary still remained. Under such circumstances continued existence could have been no blessing, and been no blessing; and our regrets are more due to the first than to the second blow, which completed the ruin after the grace and charm of life had fied.

Mr. President, my acquaintance with Charles G. Atherton commenced in 1835, when I first entered the House of Representatives, of which body I found him an ardent, active, and efficient member. Even at that early day he was a marked and trusted man in his party. Here, sir, I afterwards served with him in more intimate relations upon the Committee of Finance, of which he was chairman. I can safely testify to his fidelity to principle and the efficiency with which he discharged the duties of that trust. He was upright and honorable in all the relations of life. As his colleague has well said, he was an emi-nently safe man in council, and one, I may add, who pur-

sucd his purposes, when once they were formed, with firmness and ability.

Mr. President, when we look to a life thus cut short in ts midst as it were, we feel as if we had heard some halftold tale, and the imagination is on the stretch to fill up the vacuum, supply the loss. What is lost we cannot restore; and yet we have enough of his history to warrant the belief that, with the last sigh of his physical existence, there passed away thoughts, conceptions, and aspirations which constituted a noble scheme of life. The objects of pursuit of such a man must have been pure and elevated, and we have every reason to believe that his expectations were founded upon a just confidence in his own high character and abilities. That he did not live to fulfil this scheme his friends most deeply deplore. But who, sir, shall undertake to reason upon the decrees of Providence unless he is also acquainted with his se-

crets?
Mr. WILLIAMS, of New Hampshire. Mr. President, such has been my acquaintance with our friend whose death has been announced by my colleague, that I cannot refrain or this to me unexpected occasion from adding my humble but heartfelt tribute to his memory. My first acquaintance with Mr. Atherton commenced in 1830. He was then a member of the New Hampshire House of Representatives; and I was connected with him as a member of the House or State Senate for seven successive years. Three years of that time he was Speaker of the House, and by a dignified, impartial, prompt, and correct dis-charge of duty distinguished himself as an efficient and accomplished presiding officer.

The next four years, during the administration of Mr.

Van Buren, I was associated with him as a member of the House of Representatives in the other end of this building. In that body very few, if any, brought to its service more integrity of purpose, more clear and discriminating judgment to settle questions of difficulty, or more ready powers in debate, or greater legislative knowledge, skill, and ability. It was my happiness generally to concur with him on all important national questions, and to share so liberally in his personal friendship as to be able to estimate his personal as well as his public character. He was not orly distinguished for high qualities in the discharge of public duty, but equally distinguished for his humane, sincere, generous, and kind feelings, which end ared him to his friends. The perfect respect and friendship then formed for his character I shall fondy and gratefully cherish for his memory till I am gatherwith him to the silent temb.

In his manners Mr. Atherton was naturally reserved. quiet, and unobtrusive, but affable and courteous, gentlemanly and polished. He was incapable of deceiving by false or hypocritical professions; and, by keeping his faith with all, gave a beautiful exemplication of the in-corrupta fides in a life devoted to fidelity, justice, and truth, which left among the living not a single resentment or unkind feeling to be buried in his grave. The deceased was a graduate of Harvard College, an accom-plished scholar, of varied and extensive literary attainments, possessing a mind quick, clear, and vigorous, high-ly cultivated, and remarkably well balanced. Of his eminent talents, public character and services,

it is unnecessary for me to add to what has been elo-quently and truthfully said by those who have preceded me. These are the property of the country, and belong to the bright pages of its history. It belongs to me now only to say that in every position to which the deceased and with marked fidelity and ability.

In his native State, which he represented here, he

In his native State, which he represented nere, as shared, as he richly deserved, largely in her confidence and support, and was regarded by her citizens as the ed forward has alberdy come.

But a few weeks ago I saw Mr. Atherton in the scene eloquent advocates. His constituents admired his high, of his last professional labors. Of all those present there was no one who would not have been selected as the first and patriotic character, and often felt a glow of the great Destroyer as soon as he. Abwith which he maintained an honorable position here cholar was among the first of his class.

After leaving college he studied law in the office of his amidst the assembled galaxy of the master-minds of the nation. He loved his country, and nobly maintained time to dwell upon the anticipated duties of his Senato-nation. He loved his country, and nobly maintained time to dwell upon the anticipated duties of his Senato-nation. He loved his country, and nobly maintained time to dwell upon the anticipated duties of his Senato-nation. He loved his country, and nobly maintained time to dwell upon the anticipated duties of his Senato-nation. He loved his country, and nobly maintained time to dwell upon the anticipated duties of his Senato-nation. He loved his country depends on which its prosperity and security depends. Happy will it be for us if our footsteps are honored with the friendship and confidence of the Chief Magistrate of the nation. A few days, and the tidings

> ever devoted in his kindness and affection, and whose should our sympathy and consolation be addressed. If her constant, abiding, and self-sacrificing affection, her cares, sympathies, and efforts triumphing over fatigue and exhausted nature, could have availed, her husband would long have been spared to her and to his friends who now deplore his loss. But, slas! he has gone the road all must once pass. Calcenda semel via lethi. Talents and wealth, position and power, could not avert the arrows of death. In the prime of life and vigor of intellect and mid-career of his usefulness, he has been stricken down. and a great light extinguished forever-leaving a seat here which cannot be filled with equal ability and devotion to principle, and a nation to mourn a sad and melancholy bereavement.

> The resolutions were unanimously adopted. Mr. NORRIS. Mr. President, as a further mark of respect to the memory of the deceased, I move that the Senate adjourn. The motion was agreed to, and the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Mr. BENTON, rising to a question of privilege, stated that Jose Manuel Gallegos, the Delegate from New Mexico, was present and desired to be sworn in.

Mr. RICHARDSON asked that the credentials of the elegate might be read before he should be qualified, as he wished to show the House that neither of the contest-

ants for this seat was prima facie entitled to it. The credentials were accordingly read, consisting of a ertificate from the Governor and one from the Secretary of the Territory of New Mexico, declaring Mr. GALLEGOS have been elected Delegate from that Territory.

Mr. RICHARDSON said that it seemed there were two understood otherwise, and as the credentials were certainly in compliance with law, he proposed to make no affliction sorely oppresses them, I come to mingle my further objection, as the case would hereafter be investi- tears with theirs, and to soothe their grief by heartfelt gated by the Committee of Elections.

The SPEAKER then administered to Mr. Gallegos the

oath to support the Constitution of the United States.

Mr. RICHARDSON presented certain papers in regard were referred to the Committee of Elections

PRINTING OF PROCEEDINGS ON THE DEATH OF VICE PRESIDENT KING.

Mr. MURRAY, from the Committee on Printing, to ccasion, it would be proper to include the very interest- him was the future!

with so much of the President's message of the present seson as relates thereto, and the proceedings of the Supreme Court of the United States on the same subject.

The resolution was adopted. Mr. SMITH, of Virginia, at his own request, was ex-

used from further service on the Committee on Terri-Mr. DISNEY offered the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Printing:

Resolved, That five hundred copies of the report of the
Commissioner of the General Land Office, with the accompanying documents, be printed for the use of said office.

APPROPRIATION BILLS.

Mr. HOUSTON, from the Committee of Ways Means, reported a bill making appropriations for the civil

These bills were severally read twice and committed to the Committee of the Whole on the state of the Union. Mr. DISNEY, from the Committee on Public Lands, reported the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Committee on Public Lands be autho-

rised to employ a clerk at a compensation not exceeding four dollars per day. Debate ensued ; when-Mr. D. modified his resolution so as to authorize the

committee to employ a clerk only during the present session, and it was then adopted.

DEATH OF SENATOR ATHERTON.

A message was received from the Senate announcing the proceedings thereof on the death of Mr. ATHERTON.
Mr. HIBBARD, of New Hampshire, then rose and addressed the House as follows: Mr. Speaker, the tones of eloquent enlogy which

nounced the death of the illustrious statesman of Alabama have hardly ceased to linger in these halls ere the message from the Senate reminds us of the decease of an eminent member of that body—the Hon. CHARLES G. ATHERTON, of New Hampshire. And while I am glad to pay my humble tribute to his merory, the duty is yet sad and painful. It awakes anew our recollections of the public bereavement. It thrills, alas! but too keenly, in

many hearts, the freshly sundered ties of domestic affection and pers nal friendship.

It was said by one of the gifted of ancient days that no man's life should be accounted happy until it had ended; for we know not what clouds may darken the setting of the most brilliant meridian sun. Tried by this rule, even the life of Atherton must be deemed a most prosperous Learning, intellect, wealth, and distinction, all were his. His public career was one ascending series of hon-ors, fairly won and worthily sustained. Quiet and unostentatious in private life, he enjoyed the respect and good will of all; while those so fortunate as to be numbered among his familiar friends were bound to him as with hooks of steel. He was a gentleman of unsullied probity and a high sense of personal honor. No serious illness is known ever to have afflicted him, until that fearful stroke which consigned him so suddenly, though with little apparent agony, to an untimely grave, retaining his entire consciousness for most of the time until the final moment. He knew from the first attack that his end was He met it like one prepared. Calmly, and with-

By all his country's wishes blest." The family of Atherton has long been noted in New

Hampshire for talent and accomplishment; but has become extinct, in the direct line, with the subject of these remarks. Mr. HIBBARD then gave a brief biography of the de

ceased, and concluded as follows: I shall not, Mr. Speaker, dwell in detail upon the events served. As was said the other day of the lamented King, he was a party man. With his earnestness of con-viction and decided habits of action he could not have been otherwise. But he was free from that spirit of acrimony which often adds asperity to the discussions and struggles of political life. He was slow to censure, and dealt not in harsh invective. The general character of his speech was clear, terse, and convincing, rather than impassioned or fervidly eloquent. But there were times when his lips seemed touched as with a coal from the very altar of truth, and poured forth "thoughts that breathe and words that burn." He was a statesman of the Jeffersonian school-a fair exponent of that political faith to which our State has been, for a long period of years, so firmly and uniformly devoted. He was a rigid economist of public finance, a strict observer of the provisions of the Constitution strictly construed, a stern and unflinching defender of the rights of the States. No feature of his political life was more distinctly marked than his active and uncompromising opposition to all assaults upon the rights and institutions of the several States, from what source soever they came, and to whatever quarter they were directed. Reproach and obloquy were liberally showered upon him for this cause in times of excited sectional controversy. But it moved him not. Cool and self-reliant, confident of the future, and regardless of present consequences, he steadily pursued the path his judgment had marked out.

The timid good might stand aloof, The sage might frown, yet blenched he not. His straightforwardness of conduct commanded respect.

if it did not always produce agreement. He trusted to has been elevated he has discharged his duty acceptably time to make manifest the purity of his motives and the propriety of his acts. If it would not savor too much of

sorbed in professional engagements, his mind yet found brightly shines along the pathway of duty and usefulness. came that death had touched him with his palsying hand. His accomplished and worthy partner, to whom he was Another interval of painful suspense and we knew that wer devoted in his kindness and affection, and whose he slept the sleep which knows no waking. "The silver hand assuaged the bitterness of his parting life, lives to cord was loosed; the golden bowl was broken; the pitcher mourn her irreparable loss. To her stricken bosom was broken at the fountain." The mourners had gone was broken at the fountain." The mouraers had gone about the streets, and he had gone to his long home.

"Can storied urn or animated bust Back to its mansion call the fleeting breath? Can honor's voice provoke the silent dust, Or flattery soothe the dull cold ear of death?"

It was not Mr. Atherton's fate to waste by slow decay. No gradually-advancing decrepitude, nor torturing ma-lady, nor faltering of the out-worn faculties gave premonition of his approaching end. Suddenly and without warning, "ere his eye was dimmed or his natural force abated," he was stricken down in the maturity of his intellect, the vigor of his manhood, and the pride of place His voice will be heard no more in you hall. His familiar presence will no longer adorn the social circle, nor gladden again the bereaved one who mourns his loss in the pleasant home his departure has made desolate. But his name will live among us in the recollections of his well-spent life. His cherished memory will beam and brighten with an effulgence not soon to fade away.

In conclusion, Mr. HIBBARD offered the following re-

Resolved ununimously, That as a testimonial of respect for the memory of CHARLES G. ATHERTON, late a member of the United States Senate, now deceased, the members and offi-cers of this House will go into mourning, and wear crape on the left arm for thirty days.

Hesolved, That the Clerk be directed to communicate a copy of this resolution to the widow of the deceased.

Hesolved, As a further mark of respect, that this House do

now adjourn.

Mr. ORR, of South Carolina, rose to second the resolutions. I have been a participant (said he) in the felicirtificates, which made out a prima facie case. He had tations resulting from the political triumphs of New aderstood otherwise, and as the credentials were cer- Hampshire's sons; and now, when the heavy hand of sympathy in their sorrow.

The death of Mr. Atherton, so sudden and untimely,

is well calculated to arrest our attention, and teaches us how precarious and evanescent is life and its pursuits. o the contested election case from New Mexico; which When the heart, with all its glowing affections—the intellect, with all its noble powers are congesled by the chilling embrace of death, what a striking illustration is presented of the emptiness of worldly renown and the vanity of earthly honor !

But yesterday he was in our midst, full of life and hope which was referred the resolution to print thirty thou- and promise; enjoying physical and intellectual vigor; sand copies of the proceedings of the Senate and House modestly wearing the high honors of his loving and beof Representatives on the announcement of the leath loved State; a brilliant Senatorial career opening to his of the late Vice President, reported that in their opinion view; proud intellect, enriched with the treasures of of the late Vice President, reported that in their opinion view; proud intellect, enriched with the treasures of the number of copies proposed by said resolution should learning and experience; sustained by a confiding, generous whether any provision by law is necessary to secure the rights of citizenship to children of American citizens born in foreign the Senate and House when the treasures of the Landaulte ambition of a citizenship to children of American citizens born in foreign the Senate and House upon that melancholy and affecting noble heart fully gratified, how hopeful and promising to countries.

thet form, in such manner as may seem to them appropriate, sons with pure sentiments of justice and constitutional or the use of the House, thirty thousand copies of the proceedings of the Senate and House of Representatives and the addresses of the members in regard to the death of the late Vice President of the United States, the Hon. W.s. R. King, together never made in vain. That inflexibility and integrity of emplars for popular imitation. Political licentiousness in public men soon devastates the morals of the people. But Atherton, Woodbury, and a host of others whose genius has illuminated every page of her history, and whose names are already inscribed on the rolls of an honorable fame, have preserved the political morals and principles of New Hampshire uncorrupted in the past, and incorruptible, we trust, in the future.

Let the honest historian who toils for posterity ex-onerate the granite-bound State from the suspicion of selfishness and venality. Let the honest historian tell our children with what fidelity she stood by the Consti-tution and its compromises. And, finally, let the honest

He knew no sectionalism; the Constitution was his chart. He was faithful to his own constituents, and yet his vision was broad enough to see and his heart gene-rous enough to concede every right due his brethren in this great political household.

He illustrated the annals of his Congressional career

at an early day with an exposition of principles which has withstood the assault of time, "the only test of truth," and if they had been sacredly observed our fraternal concord and domestic repose could not have been shaken or disturbed. It was bold and manly in him, and evinced the highest moral courage; and were I now called upon to indite the inscription on the plain granite obelisk which kind affection will rear to his memory, I would make it brief and simple: THE MORTAL REMAINS

of the Author of Atherton's Resolutions.

This fact, so honorable to his head and heart, which the epitaph will commemorate, will live in the records of his country, though the shaft that points heavenwards from his mouldering clay may crumble into dust. The loss of suck a man, sir, at any time is a national calamity. It is especially heavy now, when death has stricken down in a few brief years so many "stars of the

If the ordering of human events had been committed to frail man, he would have been spared to adorn the high place he so worthily filled. But for the goodness and ustice of the Ruler of nations we might murmur at the sad decree when we remember the tempestuous sea through which we have passed; and now that the sun of domestic peace has just arisen, with genial rays, to warm fraternal affection sadly chilled, he is suddenly summoned

away without partaking of the felicity of restored friend-ship which he contributed so much to consummate. I will not invade the hallowed precincts of that griefstricken family circle where he so lately stood as a shin ing centre, dispensing light and joy; but now, alss! made so dark and cheerless. Time alone furnishes a soothing balm where the heart bleeds. Outside of that circle there is one whose sensibilities have been deeply wrung by the event. Our hosored Chief Magistrate has lost one of his earliest and truest friends. The arm which he had fondly hoped to lean upon in the trying responsibilities of his situation is now cold and pulseless; that tongue, al-ways devoted to truth, upon which he trusted to vindi-cate his motives and his honor, is silent in death. The learning and wisdom which were to counsel him in his troubles have sunk, like bright lights, to rise no more. Oh, what sad havoc has not death recently made with those around whom the President's affections have been entwined! Let not the solemn admonition be lost upon im or upon ourselves.

The question was then taken, and the resolutions were ananimously adopted. And the House adjourned till to-morrow.

Tuesday, December 20, 1853.

IN SENATE.

A message was received from the President of the United States, transmitting certain documents in answer to a resolution of the Senate of the 6th of April last, requesting information in regard to transactions betwee Capt. Hollins, of the "Cyane," and the authorities of San Juan de Nicaragua; which, on motion of Mr. SEW-ARD, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Rela tions and ordered to be printed.

Also, a message communicating from the Department of State a copy of the correspondence relative to the claim of the brig Gen. Armstrong; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations and ordered to be printed.

The PRESIDENT of the Senate laid before the body : communication from the Secretary of the Interior, com municating the report of the Superintendent of the Cen-sus, dated the 14th instant, to which a brief allusion was made in his annual report of the 5th instant to the President of the United States.

OUR COMMERCE IN THE BALTIC. By Mr. FISH: From the Chamber of Commerce of New York, complaining of the duties &c. imposed on the commerce of the United States with the Baltic Sea, and asking the adoption of measures by the Government of the United States with the view of abating such impo-

The evils complained of are the rates of light-money pilotage, duties on vessels and cargoes, poor-money, and onsular fees; being obliged, in passing into or from the Baltic, to salute Cronberg Castle, and no merchant vessel can pass the same without clearing at Elsineur, and paying rates according to provisions in treaties negotiated t that effect with Denmark by several European Powers. This memorial sets forth that our trade with the Balti

continues to be subjected to various charges and impo-sitions on the part of Denmark that are so inconsistent with the spirit of the age and so repugnant to the principles of free and unrestricted commerce that the early ttention of the Senate is most respectfully solicited on the subject.

The trade of the United States with the Baltic began in 1785. During that year but twenty vessels passed and repassed at Elsineur. In 1842 there were 113 vessels. measuring 33,000 tons. During the five years ending the 31st December, 1848, 264 American vessels entered th Baltic, upon the tonnage and cargoes of which the said dues amount to 570,473 Danish bank rix dollars. Since then no tabular statement appears to have been made of our vessels passing Elsineur, nor of the sum annually paid there.

ARMY OFFICERS IN CALIFORNIA. By Mr. WELLER: From officers of the United States army in California, asking an increase in the compensation of officers and soldiers on duty on the Pacific coast This memorial states that many officers stationed there had families to support and children to educate whom they have not the means of bringing to the country, and, posides the prospect of a separation for an indefinite time, they are harassed by difficulties in supplying their

ordinary wants. Mr. WELLER, in presenting this memorial, took occasion to observe that he hoped it would receive the favor-able and prompt consideration of the Committee on Military Affairs. It was utterly impossible that officers in that country could subsist on their present pay. A colonel of a regiment received less than was paid to a brick-mason in the city of San Francisco, and he apprehended that it required quite as much mental and physical power to command a regiment on a frontier post as to erect a brick-wall. There was less paid to a captain in the army than to a common hod-carrier, while a lieutenant absolutely received less than a scavenger. Such things ought not to be, and he hoped the committee would remedy the evil complained of.

A vast number of memorials were presented and very large mass of business not perfected at the last session was taken from the files and again referred to their

proper committees. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES. By Mr. DODGE, of Iowa, from the Committee on Pub

c Lands, a bill for the relief of Joseph Mitchell. By Mr. FISH, from the Committee on Naval Affairs for the relief of Thomas Marston Taylor. Also, a bill for the relief of Purser F. P. Stockton. Also, a bill for the relief of Joseph Gideon, accompanies

reports in each case, which were ordered to be printed. By Mr. CHASE, from the Committee of Claims, a bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Major Caleb Swan, accompanied by a report, which was ordered to be printed.

RESOLUTIONS.

On motion by Mr. SUMNER,
Resolved, That the Committee on the Post Office and Post ads be directed to inquire whether the present charges on letters carried by the ocean steamers are not unnecessarily large and burdensome, operating as a check upon commerce, as a barrier between the two hemispheres, and especially a grievous tax upon European emigrants seeking a home in the United States; and whether something may not be done, and if so what, to secure the benefits of cheap ocean postage. On motion by Mr. SEWARD,

occasion, it would be proper to includ: the very interesting proceedings of the Supreme Court of the United States upon the same subject. The committee therefore recommended the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the members of the House on the Joint Committee on the Joint Committee on the Joint Committee on Printing cause to be published and bound in parameters. different portions of the United States applying to the ode all that is valuable in existing laws, and rejecting all that is nucless or obsolete; supplying all existing deficiencies in such laws; carefully defining the jurisdiction of the different courts of the United States over the Indian country, so as to never made in vain. That inflexibility and integrity of political purpose which signalizes the character of any people is, in a high degree, the result of the upright and fearless public conduct of those whose position, education, experience, and virtue designate them as the fit exupon such subject. Mr. CHASE submitted the following:

Resolved, That the following rule be adopted for the regulation of the proceedings in the Senate, and that so much of the 38th and 59th rules as may be inconsistent with the rules hereby established be rescinded:
All sessions and all proceedings of the Senate shall be public and open, except when matters communicated in confidence by the President shall be received, and in such other dence by the President shall be received, and in such other cases as the Senate by resolution from time to time may spe-

cially order. The resolution submitted by Mr. SEWARD on the 5th instant was considered and agreed to, viz:

Resolved, That the President be requested, if not in his opinion incompatible with the public interest, to communicate this subject, demanded the previous question.

Bills of the following titles were introduced, read a first and second time, and referred to appropriate com-

Resolved, (if the Senate concur,) That the thanks of Congress be and they are hereby presented to Duncau N. Ingramm, commanding the United States sloop-of-war St. Louis, and to the officers and men under his command, for their galiant conduct on the 2d day of July last in asserting and protecting the rights of American citizenship, mative and adopted, by the rescue of Martin Kostas, in the harbor of Smyrna, from the fereible and illegal scizure and imprisonment on board the Austrian brig-of-war Huszar.

Resolved, That the President of the United States be and he is hereby sequested to cause to be made a sword, with smit. By Mr. HAMLIN: A bill to provide for the ascertainment and satisfaction of claims of American citizens to French spoliations, reported by the Committee of Finance prior to 31st July, 1801. This bill with the papers were referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations instead of a select committee, as before.

By Mr. BADGER: A bill for the relief of M. K. Warrington and C. St. J. Chubb, executors of Capt. Lewis

for the use of any building to be hereafter erected as a public store or warehouse, and no lease of any building

the Secretary of the Interior to provide suitable and per-

manent accommodations for the United States courts of Massachusetts and their officers. By Mr. DODGE, of Iowa: A bill to authorize the sale

of lands reserved for military purposes, and for the use of the Indians in the State of Iowa.

By Mr. JOHNSON: A bill granting lands to Arkansas

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

The SPEAKER laid before the House a communica

tion from the War Department, transmitting, in com-pliance with the resolution of the House of the 12th in-

stant, which called upon the Secretary of War "to repor

to the House any report or plan existing in his Depart-ment showing the cost and practicability of deepening the harbor of Mobile," a letter of the chief engineer, enclos-

ing a report of Major Wm. H. Chase, of the corps of en-

Committee on Commerce and ordered to be printed.

PRIVILEGE OF THE HALL.

ineers, giving the information desired. Referred to the

The SPEAKER stated that he desired to communicate

to the House the fact that for the better protection of the Doorkeeper in the discharge of his duties, and to prevent

the inconvenience and difficulty frequently arising out of

the admission of persons, not members, to the floor, be-

heving that the power to do so was conferred upon him

as the presiding officer of the body, he had directed the

NG, and it was decided in the affirmative.

read twice and committed.

The motion was agreed to.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES.

be; which was read twice and committed.

Mr. MACE, from the Committee of Claims, reported a

Also, from the same committee, a bill for the relief of

Mr. BENTON said that he had to give the same infor-

PURCHASE OF MOUNT VERNON.

laid on the table.

Mr. CLINGMAN hoped the gentleman from Virginia

would withdraw the motion to lay on the table and allow

Mr. BAYLY declined, stating that he desired to kill

The question was then taken on the motion to lay the

resolution on the table, and it was decided in the affirm-

P. Stanton, Stratton, Straub, Andrew Stuart, David Stuart John J. Taylor, Vansant, Wade, Walsh, Witte, Daniel B

Norton, Andrew Oliver, Parker, Peck, John Perkins, Pringle

Puryear, Ready, David Ritchie, Rogers, Russell, Sabin, Sage, Seward, Simmons, Sollers, Hestor L. Stevens, John L. Tay-lor, Traey, Trout, Tweed, Vail, Walbridge, Walker, Warren, Elihu B. Washburne, Israel Washburn, Wells, Tappan Went-worth, Wheeler, and Zollicoffer—85.

by which the motion to lay on the table was agreed to.
Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, moved to lay the motion to
reconsider on the table; which motion was agreed to 97

THANKS TO CAPT. INGRAHAM.

Mr. D., presuming that no gentleman desired to debat

Puryear, Ready, David Ritchie, Rogers, Russell, Sah

direct vote to be taken on the resolution.

make by the proprietor of Mount Vernou.

[Cries of "Read, read."] Mr. BAYLY again declined.

ative by the following vote:

Madison Parton; which was also read twice and commit-

Virginia State and Continental lines.

The Senate adjourned.

the rules.

his place.

de is hereby equested to cause to be made a sword, with suit-ble devices, and presented to Capt. Duncan N. Ingraham as testimonial of the high sense entertained by Congress of his alor, promptness, and judicious conduct on the above me-corable occasion. Mr. B. desired to state that this bill had been twice acted on, but had been lost in the other branch, and he expressed the hope that the Committee on Naval Affairs would not make the bill an exception to the promptitude exhibited by its action this morning.

By Mr. HUNTER: A bill to extend the warehousing system by establishing private bonded warehouses, and

ed, That the President of the United States cause of foregoing resolutions to be communicated to Capt. Duncas Ingraham in such terms as he may deem best calculated give effect to the objects thereof.

The reading of the resolution being called for, it was

Resolved, (if the Senate concur,) That the thanks of Con

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, moved to refer the resol

for other purposes.

[This bill strikes from the one introduced last session the clause which requires the proprietor of any selected bonded warehouse to pay to the United States a sum not exceeding one thousand dollars, as a remuneration to the United States for the expense incurred by the arrangement, and will not allow any expenses on ware-housed or unclaimed goods in public or private bonded warehouses beyond the amount actually incurred by the United States. A proviso is added to the 6th section, that no officer of the customs shall enter into any contract

Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, moved to refer the resolution to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

The SPEAKER stated that, as the previous question had been demanded, the motion was not in order.

Mr. BAYLY hoped, then, that the demand for the previous question would be voted down.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, moved to lay the resolution on the table; which motion was negatived.

Mr. WALSH appealed to his colleague to postpone the consideration of this matter for a few days, as one of his colleagues, (Mr. Lyon.) who was not now present, desired to take part in this piece of Buncombe by moving to amend the resolution so as to give Capt. Ingraham a medal, a pair of epaulets, and some other additions. He hoped, therefore, the gentleman would consent to postpone this subject until his colleague should return. [Laughter.]

Mr. DEAN withdrew the demand for the previous question, and moved that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs.

Mr. SMITH, of Alabama, moved to lay the resolution on the table; which was disagreed to.

The motion that the resolution be referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs was then agreed to.

shall be taken for a longer period than three years, nor is rent to be paid in whole or in part in any case in ad-By Mr. EVANS: A bill to indemnify the State of South Carolina for money expended for the United States in the war with the Seminole Indians in Florida. By Mr. EVERETT: A bill authorizing and directing mittee on Foreign Affairs was then agreed to.

MINT IN NEW YORK. Mr. TWEED, in pursuance of notice, introduced a bill to establish a mint of the United States in the city of New York; which was read twice and referred to the Committee of Ways and Means.

SOUND DUES. On motion of Mr. WALKER, it was

By Mr. THOMPSON, of Kentucky: A bill to provide for the unpaid claims of the officers and soldiers of the On motion of Mr. WALKER, it was

Resolved, That the President of the United States be requested to communicate to this House, as far as the public interests may permit, the state of the negotiations between this country and Denmark in relation to the imposition of "sound dues" upon our commerce to the Baltic, together with such correspondence as may have passed between the two intions on that subject. to aid in the construction of a railroad from a point on the Mississippi, in the region of Gaines's Landing, via Camden, to the Texas boundary, near Fulton, in Arkansas.
Also, a bill granting land to Arkansas, to aid in the wo nations on that subject.

construction of a railroad from Shreveport, in Louislana, through Arkansas, to St. Joseph's, in Missouri. Mr. HUGHES, in pursuance of notice, introduced a joint resolution in relation to proof in pension cases; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Revolu-

CITIZENSHIP TO CHILDREN.

On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, it was On motion of Mr. CHANDLER, it was

Resolved, That the Committee on the Judiciary be and it is
hereby instructed to inquire whether any, and, if any, what,
legislation is necessary to secure the right of citizenship to
children born out of the United States whose parents at the
time of such births are citizens of the United States; and that
the committee report at as early a day as possible by bill or the committee report at as early a day as possible by bill or

Mr. FLORENCE, in pursuance of notice, introduced a bill extending the provisions of the several laws granting bounty lands to the officers and soldiers who have been engaged in the military service of the United States; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on RAILROAD TRON

Mr. CLINGMAN, in pursuance of notice, introduced a bill to give credit to importers of railroad iron; which was Mr. C. remarked that this was a subject which fre-

quently came before the last Congress, but was not finally acted upon by it. What was the feeling of the present House he did not know; but he thought there was a strong Doorkeeper to open a register, and that the names of such persons, other than members, as were entitled to the privileges of the hall should be entered therein. Undernecessity for the passage of such a law at this time. It was a simple matter, and he presumed every member of the House had already formed an opinion upon it. He begged leave to remind gentlemen that within the last standing that some question had arisen with regard to the power of the Chair in this matter, he should be pleased o have the sense of the House on the subject.

Mr. EWING moved that the Doorkeeper be directed to seep a register such as referred to by the Speaker.

Mr. HOUSTON wished to know if it would at all vary eighteen months an enormous rise in the price of railroad iron had taken place. Eighteen months ago the price was forty dollars a ton; now it was eighty. The consequence was that many States and account of the consequence was that many States and account of the consequence. The SPEAKER replied it would not.

Mr. HOUSTON said that it was then only a measure was that many States and companies which two years ago commenced their roads with sufficient capital, now found it difficult, if not impossible, to continue their ntroduced by the Speaker for the purpose of enforcing works. There was now a large surplus in the Treasury, and this bill proposed a credit of four years. In all probability, when these four years should have passed away, the Government would need money very much. If these duties should go into the Treasury now. The SPEAKER replied it was; and, although he had no doubt of his power in the premises, yet he would like to have the sense of the House on the subject. The question was then taken on the motion of Mr. Ewit was quite likely they would be expended now, and the Government might be in need of funds four years hence. He therefore thought it would be wise policy to throw the Mr. EASTMAN, from the Committee on Indian Affairs, receipt of this money about four years ahead, leaving the present surplus to be expended now. If it should turn out that in that time the Government should be involved. eported a bill for the relief of the widow and heirs of Mr. BOCOCK, from the Committee on Naval Affairs in war—and we were a warlike people—it would need all the funds it could possibly raise, and could in that event reported a bill to authorize the construction of six firstlass steam frigates, and for other purposes; which was use the money received under this measure. Mr. B. also reported that the same committee had in In conclusion, he asked that the bill might be put upon

structed him to ask the House to order to be printed the tee of Ways and Means it would never be reached.

Mr. JONES, of Tennessee, moved that the bill be laid on the table; which motion was negatived.

Mr. COBB, moved to amend the bill by adding thereto a report of the officers appointed by the Secretary of the Navy to investigate the causes of the failure of certain steam frigates built for the navy, in order that the House

might investigate the matter before they should be called proviso that in all cases of extension there shall be paid interest, at the rate of six per cent. per annum, by such persons to whom this credit shall be allowed. On motion of Mr. PECK, the bill was then referred to bill for the relief of the legal representatives of Isaac B. Simonton, deceased; which was read twice and comthe Committee of Ways and Means.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE. On motion of Mr. HOUSTON, the House went into ommittee of the Whole on the state of the Union, (Mr. ORR, of South Carolina, in the chair, ) and proceeded to con-

sider the annual message of the President of the United mation in reference to the Library Committee that he had heretofore given with respect to the Committee on Military Affairs. Being the first named, and therefore chairman, of the Library Committee, its members had been kind enough to release him from the duties of chairman, Mr. HOUSTON offered the usual resolutions to refer o appropriate committees the various subjects embraced

Mr. SMITH, of New York, then obtained the floor, and Mr. SMITH, of New York, then obtained the noor, shu addressed the Committee in regard to the Koszta case. He expressed his regret that Capt. Ingraham had gone no further, and had not insisted on Koszta being immediately set free at absolute liberty. He then contended that there existed a worse despotism in this country than in Austria, and thought it would be high time for America to brand Austria with desputies when we should set The House then resumed the consideration of the joint resolution, introduced on Thursday lact by Mr. Saor, authorizing the Secretary of the Interior, provided he first obtain the consent of the State of Virginia, to contract ca to brand Austria with despotism when we should set such an example before her as would tend to shame her with the proprietor or proprietors for the purchase of the estate of Mount Vernon, upon which was pending the motion of Mr. BAYLY, of Virginia, that the resolution be out of her despotism rather than to justify and confirm

her in it. Mr. PRESTON replied at length, when The Committee rose, and the House adjourned.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21, 1853

IN SENATE

Mr. THOMSON, of New Jersey, presented resolutions of the Legislature of New Jersey respecting a lighthouse on Absecom beach, and a bell buoy outside of Absecom bar, and relative to the construction of a breakwater at Mr. TAYLOR, of Ohio, also requested the gentleman to withdraw the motion so as to permit him to submit to the House a short statement which he was authorized Cape May; which were severally read and referred to the Committee on Commerce.

> MEMORIALS AND PETITIONS. The following memorials and petitions were presented and appropriately referred:
>
> By Mr. WADE: From Jno. Devlin, asking comp

Additional documents relating to the claim of Paniel N. Sanuel A. Smith, Wm. Smith, Willsam R. Smith, Frederick S. Alson, Stratbo, Straub, Andrew Stuart, David Stuart, P. Stanton, Straub, Andrew Stuart, David Stuart, P. Stanton, Straub, Andrew Stuart, David R. Bayly, Barksdale, Barry, Belcher, Benton, Bocock, Boyce, Breekenridge, Brooks, Lewis D. Campbel, Cock, Boyce, Breekenridge, Brooks, Lewis D. Campbel, Chamberlain, Clingman, Cobb, Cox, Craige, Dawson, Dean, Dowdell, Dunbar, Eastman, Edgerton, Ewing, Poller, Gamble, Giddings, Goode, Green, Grow, Sampson W. Harris, Wiley, Harris, Hastings, Henn, Hibbard, Houston, Johnson, Daniel T. Jones, George W. Jones, Kidwell, Kittredge, Lamb, Latham, Letcher, Lindsley, Macdonald, McMullen, McQueen, Mace, Macy, Maxwell, Mayall, Morrison, Murray, Nichols, Orr. Packer, Peckham, Bishop Perkins, Phelps, Powell, Pratt, Richardson, Riddle, Thomas Ritchey, Ruffin, Sapp, Seymour, Shaw, Singleton, Skelton, Gerrit Smith, Sanuel A. Smith, Wm. Smith, William R. Smith, Frederick P. Stanton, Stratbon, Straub, Andrew Stuart, David Stuart,

Daniel Nickel. A large mass of memorials were taken from the files. motion of several Senators, and again referred to appro-

priate committees. INCREASE OF THE NAVY.

John J. Taylor, Vaneant, Wade, Walsh, Witte, Daniel B. Wright, and Hendrick B. Wright—S3.

NAYS—Messrs. Abererombie, Aiken, Willis Allen, Appleton, Ball, Benson, Bugg, Carpenter, Chandler, Chase, Chastain, Chrisman, Clark, Cook, Cerwin, Crocker, Cullom, Curtis, Cutting, John G. Davis, Dent, Dick, Drum, Eddy, Edmands, Ellison, English, Etheridge, Everhart, Farley, Fenton, Fiagler, Florence, Franklin, Greenwood, Aaron Harian, Harrison, Haven, Hendricks, Hill, Howe, Hughes, Hunt, Knox, Kurtz, Lane, Lily, Lindley, McCulloch, Meacham, Middleswarth, John G. Miller, Smith Miller, Morgan, Noble, Norton, Andrew Oliver, Parker, Peck, John Perkins, Pringle, Mr. GWIN, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported that the committee on Naval Affairs had had under consideration that portion of the report of the Secretary of the Navy recommending an "increase of the Secretary of the Navy recommending an "increase of the navy," in which he asks for authority to have constructed at least six first-class steam frigate propellers, and suggests that if the authority be granted the appropriation should be made at an early day to enable the Department to build them with dispatch, and purchase a supply of material so as not to diminish the amount on supply of material so as not to diminish the amount on hand; and that the committee fully concurred in the suggestions and recommendations of the Secretary of the Navy, and would give their attention to the bill making appropriations for this object which is expected at an early day from the House of Representatives.

Mr. SEWARD, from the Committee on Commerce, reperted the bill for the relief of the owners of the barque Kate Boyd, without amendment.

Mr. S. pressed its immediate consideration; and no objection having been made, it was considered and passed. Mr. CAMPBELL, of Ohio, moved to reconsider the vote

Mr. DEAN, in pursuance of notice, introduced a joint resolution of thanks of Congress and presentation of a sword to Capt. Duncan N. Ingraham; which was read ection having been made, it was considered and passed. By Mr. HUNTER, from the Committee on Finance: A bill to extend the warehouse system by establishing private bonded warehouses, and for other purposes.

By Mr. PRATT, from the Committee of Claims: A bill